THE TENTH DAY.

4th March, 1926.

The Assembly met again at 11-37 A. M., on Thursday, the 4th March, 1926.

167. Nairs and the Public Service.

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Member, Neyyattinkara taluk, Group II*) said that the condition of the Nair community had never been so bad as in recent years during which it seemed to have ceased to be reckoned with for recruitment or promotion in the higher grades of the service. The Nairs were under the impression that the Government themselves contributed in a large measure to the exclusion of the Nairs from the service. No community would be ruined merely because it was excluded from the service; but there was the communal self-respect which the Nair community too could not afford to ignore. The Nairs had always been advocating the national cause and never cared to advocate their own with the result that they had to go to the wall. The community felt that, unless it pressed its claims, it would not have justice meted out to it. The Member referred to the nominations made to the Neyyattinkara Panchayat Court and said that no Nair was nominated until the Legislative Council Member for Neyyattinkara taluk represented the matter to the Government and public meetings were held to bring the injustice to notice. He requested therefore that the case of the community should not suffer for default. There should be fair play and nothing should stand in the way of meting out the barest justice to the community in the matter of representation to the public service.

DEWAN'S REPLY: I will reply to all the three representations on the same subject together.

168. Nairs and the Public Service.

MR. C. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Member, Tiruvalla taluk, Group II*) said that there was a feeling in the Nair community that the Government were not favourably inclined towards it. The community was numerically not inconsiderable, and was in the forefront in point of culture and intelligence, and by virtue of its interests in land and its past services to the Crown and the country it was entitled even to special consideration. It would not be wisdom or statesmanship to alienate the support and co-operation of such a community in the State.

Of a total of 36, there were only two Nairs as heads of departments. The extension of the term of office of Mr. Justice Chatfield, the appointment of Mrs. Lukose as the officer in charge of the Darbar Physician's duties, the extension of the term of office of Mr. Pitt, Commissioner of Police, the appointment of Mr. V. S. Subrahmanya Aiyar as Head Sirkar Vakil, of Mr. George as Chief Secretary, the confirmation of Mr. I. C. Chacko as the Director of Industries before the return from England of Mr. A. Gopala Menon to whom that place was to have been given, and the appointment of Mr. E. J. John as the Principal of the Law College, were instanced to show that the Nairs were excluded from the Government service not as a result of accident, but of a deliberate design. There were also other instances of injustice. The pay of the Professor's post in the college was reduced as soon as a Nair with high English qualifications was to be appointed as a Professor. A first grade clerk in the Secretariat on Rs. 115 was given, without any recommendation from his official superiors, the maximum of Rs. 150 in another post and from there he was taken on Rs. 200 to Rs.250 overlooking the claims of several senior Nair officers. Recently, he was appointed to a place to which he could have been appointed eight months before. The claims of a Brahmin Superintendent in the Secretariat with six years more to his credit were

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